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LETTER DATED 1 JUNE 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF QATAR TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

With reference to my letter of 1 June 1994 addressed to you, in which I requested that my country's delegation should be allowed to participate, without vote, in the discussion on the item entitled "The situation in Yemen", under article 37 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, and since the members of the Council agreed that no statements would be delivered during the discussion, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of the statement which I had intended to deliver on behalf of my Government on this subject.

I should be grateful if you would have the annexed statement circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hassan Ali Hussain AL-NI'MAH
Permanent Representative

Annex

Statement by His Excellency Mr. Hassan Ali Hussain Al-Ni'mah, Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar, to the Security Council during the discussion on "The situation in Yemen", New York, 1 June 1994

Mr. President,

First of all, I should like to convey to you my congratulations on your Presidency of this esteemed Council for the current month. I am fully confident that you will discharge your duties of presiding over the work of this Council and smoothing out its difficulties with the outstanding capability and broad comprehension that God has given you.

I have pleasure in thanking your predecessor, His Excellency Mr. Ibrahim Gambari, Permanent Representative of Nigeria, who presided over the work of the Council during the past month with dedication and commendable and tireless endeavour.

The State of Qatar called for the convening of a meeting of the Security Council because it believes in the importance of discussing this matter and wishes to participate in sincere international efforts to maintain security and stability in fraternal Yemen and because it hopes that the deliberations of your esteemed Council and the discussions by States Members of the United Nations will contribute, given appropriate endeavour, to the discovery of the best way to resolve fraternal Yemen's current problems of conflict and internecine fighting between nationals of the same country. These have reached the point where we see today, throughout the proud country of Yemen, the tragedies and afflictions of war and thousands of innocent Yemenis falling victim to that struggle, which inflicts such heavy losses on fraternal Yemen, presenting a threat to the peace and security of our Arab nation as a whole and exposing it to further calamity, grief and destruction.

Four years ago, the Government and people of Qatar hailed Yemeni unity, since it was approved by the Yemeni people as its fate and destiny, on the basis of our firm belief in its significance for the prosperity and stability of fraternal Yemen. Since the beginning of the dispute between the warring nationals of one country, Qatar has supported the agreement approved by our Yemeni brothers themselves, in which they concurred and to which committed themselves in fraternal Jordan. That agreement was welcomed and supported by the Government and people of Qatar, which have striven for it and continue to strive for it sincerely for the sake of a prosperous Yemen in which harmony, solidarity and cooperation prevail and for the sake of building a radiant tomorrow in which the people of fraternal Yemen will enjoy an advanced economy and flourishing social development, for the unity, development and progress of Yemen are truly a source of strength for the Arab community and a mainstay of the Arab nation.

Qatar appeals to your esteemed Council to contribute to the expenditure of further sincere and unremitting international efforts to help fraternal Yemen to find the best solution, within the framework of Yemeni legitimacy and the unity and territorial integrity of Yemen.

Who will tell the world that all is well
And that Yemen survives and is safe and sound among our lands?

Home of civilizations, treasure of the Arabs from time immemorial,
The pride of creation and the delight of time.

O Yemen, abode of greatness and a royal race,
In your shelter I tremble with nostalgia and grief.

I chose to espouse your mighty cause in spite of the difficulty,
And the passion flames with the conflagration of your tribulations.

When the northern breeze brings rain clouds,
It gives the south flowing water in abundant supply.

My precious San'a', historic metropolis,
And, amid the graces of paradise, Aden,

Both are in my heart and in my body,
Abiding in my spiritual and my physical being.

Both are in my mind and in my imagination,
Where yearning, sleeplessness and slumber range.

The carefree slept, but one eye was open.
The Yemeni is ever wakeful and alert.

The Yemeni's goodness in a lightning flash
Flows with magnanimity as the clouds pour with rain,

And he seeks guidance from a light after an absence.
The Yemeni is ever noble, ever moving onwards.

What shall we say to a history that calls on us
To take heed for we have had sufficient woe and grief?

The dream of the peoples when it emerges from the darkness -
With the dawn comes enlightenment and disclosure.

I wish for the two groups in Yemen
That they may not be torn apart by hatred and dissension,

But, surviving for all time, may rise to the heights
As a united Yemen to the greater glory of the Arab homeland.

Thank you, Mr. President.